



For Immediate Release
December 15, 2010

Contact: Scott Mulhauser/Erin Shields
(202) 224-4515

**BAUCUS APPLAUDS COMMITTEE APPROVAL OF SOCIAL SECURITY DEPUTY
COMMISSIONER NOMINEE**

Finance Committee Favorably Reports Carolyn Colvin to be Deputy Commissioner of Social Security

Washington, DC – Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus (D-Mont.) today applauded the Finance Committee’s action to favorably report the nomination of Carolyn Colvin to be the Deputy Commissioner of the Social Security Administration. The Committee members approved Ms. Colvin’s nomination unanimously, with Senator Ensign voting by proxy, during an executive session.

“As more and more people hit the retirement age, the Social Security Administration will need to keep bright, talented people at the helm to meet new challenges with effective solutions,” said Baucus.

“Carolyn Colvin is the right person to lead the Social Security Administration’s employees with a steady and experienced hand. She has a proven record of sound leadership, and knows the ins and outs of Social Security well. Ms. Colvin is nominated for a critical position in the Social Security Administration and it is my hope the Senate will confirm her quickly so she can continue her work for America’s seniors.”

The Social Security Administration currently faces a lengthy disability appeals hearing backlog that causes severe delays in the payment approval process. Having an effective Deputy Commissioner is critical to effectively reducing these backlogs. Baucus questioned Colvin on the backlog during a recent hearing on her nomination, and Colvin expressed her belief that the problem can be handled with adequate staffing, effective management and new electronic processing systems.

###